



Now a man named Lazarus was sick. He was from Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. ² (This Mary, whose brother Lazarus now lay sick, was the same one who poured perfume on the Lord and wiped his feet with her hair.) ³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved

Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days, ⁷ and then he said to his disciples, "Let us go back to Judea."

¹⁷ On his arrival, Jesus found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. ¹⁸ Now Bethany was less than two miles from Jerusalem, ¹⁹ and many Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them in the loss of their brother. ²⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went out to meet him, but Mary stayed at home.

²¹ "Lord," Martha said to Jesus, "if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But I know that even now God will give you whatever you ask." ²³ Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise again."

²⁴ Martha answered, "I know he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day."

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

"I AM" Series Lessons:

The "I AM" statements of Jesus were meant to CHALLENGE the listener's UNDERSTANDING of the Kingdom.

The "I AM" statements of Jesus was a SELF-REVELATION of who he is and served as invitation to RELATIONSHIP.

The Dead

³ So the sisters sent word to Jesus, "Lord, the one you love is sick."

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death. No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it." ⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days,

DEATH was part of the process but not the ENDING.

⁴ When he heard this, Jesus said, "This sickness will not end in death.

This is the SECOND miracle that Jesus says is directly to REVEAL the Glory of God.

No, it is for God's glory so that God's Son may be glorified through it.

Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him. John 9:3

The Father is GLORIFIED when we glorify His SON.

Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son that the Son may glorify you. John 17:1

It was Jesus' LOVE for them that caused him to DELAY his arrival.

⁵ Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. ⁶ So when he heard that Lazarus was sick, he stayed where he was two more days,

The Doubt

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die;

²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

Jesus claims to be the Tetragrammaton or YHWH for the 5th time but this time over DEATH itself.

Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; v.25

The last enemy that will be destroyed is death. 1 Corinthians 15:26

Jesus shares that all people will DIE but not all people will LIVE.

The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.

We see the struggle in Martha of when our THEOLOGY runs into our REALITY.

Do you believe this?"²⁷ "Yes, Lord," she replied, "I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, who is to come into the world."

Faith doesn't require us to UNDERSTAND but simply to FOLLOW.

³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said. "But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days."

The No Longer Deceased

⁴³ When he had said this, Jesus called in a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴ The dead man came out, his hands and feet wrapped with strips of linen, and a cloth around his face. Jesus said to them, "**Take off the grave clothes and let him go.**"

This is the greatest miracle of Jesus' earthly MINISTRY.

Martha, the sister of him who was dead, said to Him, "Lord, by this time there is a stench, for he has been dead four days. V.39

This MIRACLE is not really about Lazarus but about JESUS and those whose were there.

"I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

Although not INTENDED, a valuable LESSON can be applied.

"Take off the grave clothes and let him go."

We are called to help each other take off the OLD SELF and live a CHRIST-LIKE life.

"...to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness." Ephesians 4:22-23

"We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin." Romans 6:6

What would it be like if we would see our lives not so much about ourselves, but about Jesus and those around us?